

whether they would place such a club in Saigon; and  
the name of the Army Colonel who "allegedly", according to the article, gave his blessing to this project.

The following is a copy of the reply I received to my inquiry along with a fact sheet prepared to state the position of the Department of Defense on this matter:

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,  
Washington, D.C., April 11, 1967.

HON. HENRY C. SCHADEBERG,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SCHADEBERG: This is in reply to your letter of March 22, 1967, enclosing a newspaper clipping indicating that Mr. Richard L. Bast and a firm known as Redex-Vietnam, Inc. plan to open a discotheque in Saigon featuring "topless" dancers.

Enclosed is a Department of Defense Fact Sheet prepared in response to the large volume of correspondence we have received concerning Mr. Bast's planned undertaking.

Mr. Bast, the sole source of the information contained in the news account, has not disclosed the identity of the Army Colonel who, he alleges, suggested the project. However if such a suggestion was made, the Army Colonel was without authority to approve the project. The admission of U.S. citizens to the Republic of Vietnam and the licensing and control of their employment in a private business enterprise while in that country are exclusively within the authority of the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.

I trust the enclosed information satisfactorily responds to your other questions. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to clarify the Department of Defense position in this matter.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM W. BERG,  
Brigadier General, USAF, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense.

#### FACT SHEET

(Department of Defense position on reported plans of a private business concern to open a "topless" discotheque in Vietnam)

Recent stories in newspapers throughout the Nation reported plans of a Mr. Richard L. Bast and a firm known as Redex-Vietnam, Inc. to open a discotheque in Saigon featuring "topless" dancers.

The Department of Defense knows nothing of Mr. Bast's proposed business operation other than what has been learned from newspaper accounts. This department has not given assistance or encouragement to anyone in the planning of the proposed discotheque. In fact, the department shares the alarm of those many citizens who have protested concerning the possible effect such a business activity might have on the moral climate to which our servicemen are exposed. However, this department has no authority to prevent the establishment and operation of private businesses in Vietnam no matter how strongly we may oppose the objectives of the business. Such matters are within the jurisdiction of Vietnamese authorities. Nevertheless, the Department of Defense has continuing and unrelenting concern in all matters that may affect the morals and welfare of persons in the Military Service.

The moral behavior of service personnel and factors which influence such behavior are problems which should and do receive continuing attention by military commanders. Irresponsible and immoral behavior on the part of servicemen is never condoned, nor do we condone conditions which tend to induce or encourage immoral behavior.

Military commanders are acutely aware of the special problems which stem from the separation of servicemen from the restraining influence of home and family. Consequently,

intensive efforts are made to compensate for the loss of moral restraints by use of affirmative measures such as character guidance programs, advice and assistance of chaplains, and the provision of facilities for wholesome recreation, entertainment and relaxation to provide healthy outlets for the energies of servicemen during their off-duty hours. However, service personnel are, in general, neither more nor less moral than when they entered the service; unfortunately some persist in engaging in immoral conduct despite counseling and advice to the contrary. Thus, where warranted, military commanders may also establish curfews, curtail liberty privileges and take disciplinary action against offenders.

As a further measure, areas and individual establishments can be and are placed off limits by commanders concerned when such action is warranted to protect the interests and welfare of our servicemen.

If the promoters are successful in opening their proposed discotheque in Saigon, the military commanders concerned will examine the operation of the establishment with extreme care in keeping with the principles outlined herein.

Among the letters which prompted my request to the Army is one written to me by Mr. R. H. Johnson, of Racine, Wis. I am enclosing it so that my colleagues may become more aware of what the people back there think.

RACINE, WIS.,  
March 2, 1967.

HON. HENRY C. SCHADEBERG,  
House Office Building,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SCHADEBERG: This Viet Nam war is a disgrace and a drain beyond comprehension; political gains and monetary gains of every conceivable kind have interwoven into the fabric of this conflict. The worst part of it all is that men are being slaughtered and our country is being fleeced of money wholesale while more taxes are being levied and planned.

But this morning a new wrinkle is being added as you can see by the front page story I have included. First of all, if this club opens under sanction as intended (so more people can drain off more money, while corruption of our youth increases), there will be a string of these clubs set up all over Viet Nam. I was in the service for over three years, and you have been in off and on often yourself, so we know all about vice and such in the service, but there should be a cutoff when it becomes too open and all inclusive. As you and I know, any military officer could put this sort of club "off limits" to military personnel and it would wither on the vine. We have seen what "off limits" can do to businesses in our own country, and if enforced there would be no problem of these proposed nude American clubs. Also, it begins with topless and if they follow as San Francisco goes, they must be bottomless too. Incidentally, as long as Congress is bent on killing the American people with socialism and taxes, why don't they stop this topless-bottomless thing in our country, by national verdict—and it can be done right now. Anyway, don't you think Congress should speak at least in protest to all this immorality, now to be heaped on all the other disgracefulness of this Viet Nam war. Our image in Asia is so low now that it is in the dust of the street; why let it go still lower. Why is it that you men in Congress are never heard on such things as this Mr. Bast of Washington proposes (and he is right near you in the District if you care to contact him). I think it is a sign of acceptance by you all in Congress and the country if no one opposes this sort of proposed immorality for the morale corrupting of our men. It is also strange to read in this article that an army colonel in a way suggested these topless treats for the boys (now are you going

to be heard in Congress and stop some of this or will you too just let things go from bad to worse). The very least you can do and others too is to make a speech in Congress condemning this sort of thing, and maybe the press will aid in arousing the American public to put down some of this corruption.

R. JOHNSON.

I suggest that it is unfortunate that the Defense Department is forced into a position of spending its time and effort answering the many requests such as mine prompted by those who are willing to make a fast buck out of a tragic situation in which our men are fighting and dying. It is an offense to the moral sensitivities of parents who have their sons in Vietnam subjected to such crass indifference to feelings of those whose hopes and prayers are their men will return home whole—morally as well as physically.

#### Students Question Congressman

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS OF

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 12, 1967

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, during the Easter recess of Congress, I spoke to some 11,000 high school and grade school pupils throughout the Ninth Congressional District of Indiana.

The topic of my talks was the attitude of young people toward government today. I took care to allow time for questions at each stop, and I took time to note what issues concerned these young people.

The questions ranged from miniskirts to the Vietnam conflict. I found these young people well informed and extremely responsive to the issues of our times.

The Shelbyville News commented editorially on the questions posed by the pupils, observing:

We who are parents and other adults as well who are inclined to "talk down" to teenagers when conversing with them on subjects of serious importance, would do well to consider the fact that young people today are without doubt better informed generally than those of any generation before them.

Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I include this excellent editorial which appeared in the April 6 edition of the Shelbyville News:

#### THE QUESTIONS THEY ASK

We who are parents, and other adults as well who are inclined to "talk down" to teenagers when conversing with them on subjects of serious importance, would do well to consider the fact that young people today are without doubt better informed generally than those of any generation before them.

This is brought to mind by a report from 9th District Congressman Lee H. Hamilton on his 17 speaking engagements at Hoosier high schools last weekend during the Easter recess of Congress. In his tour of schools he spoke to more than 11,000 students on the attitudes of young people to government today.

Most interesting was the nature of the questions asked him by the students—questions of such variety and importance as to surprise many adults who somehow frequently fail to recognize young people for what they are—near-adults who are knowl-

able and deeply concerned with the world of which they are a part.

Following are the issues of most concern to the young men and women with whom Congressman Hamilton talked, listed in the order of the number of questions asked on a particular subject:

Vietnam; the draft; the Adam Clayton Powell case; lowering of the voting age; the danger of communism; milk dumping (in the current withholding action of the National Farmers Organization); France, NATO and other European countries with our occupation troops; bombing of North Vietnam; water and air pollution; the Kennedy assassination and the Garrison probe; the Birch Society; Socialism; voting your conscience or the will of the people; ethics committee; the consular treaty proposal; taxes; the proposed antimissile system; the Republican party; electoral college.

Also, the Sino-Soviet split; servicemen's pay; mini-skirts; the one-man, one-vote constitutional amendment; East-West trade; open housing; campus riots; Rhodesia; Bakalar Air Force Base; CIA financing of student groups; the National Farmers Organization; the bombs and butter argument; federal aid to parochial schools; the national debt; gold drain; what are your wife's responsibilities; water conservation; inflation; firearms; financial assistance for college; why did you get into politics; Falls of the Ohio; campaign practices; campaign contributions; rapid deployment military ships versus civilian ships.

As adults, it's fair to ask ourselves whether we know enough about even half of these subjects to ask intelligent questions about them, although practically every single one of them has been in the news many times.

"I found the young people extremely responsive to the issues of our times," said Hamilton in a newsletter from his Washington office. "At each stop we had to halt the question period before they were ready, to allow me to reach my next speaking engagement."

There was one subject that the Congressman declined to answer. It was the one about mini-skirts, and he fielded it gracefully by saying, "That is outside the area of my expertise."

But the fact that these young people asked so many questions on issues of importance to the nation and the world, shows admirable thought processes and a wide spectrum of concern.

We should be proud of them, for they are in the vast majority.

## What Americanism Means to Me

### EXTENSION OF REMARKS OF

HON. THADDEUS J. DULSKI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 12, 1967

Mr. DULSKI. Mr. Speaker, in yesterday's RECORD I included the texts of the essays of the first six winners in the 38th annual Americanism Essay Contest sponsored by the Erie County American Legion, the Legion Auxiliary, and the Buffalo Evening News in Buffalo, N.Y.

Under leave to extend my remarks, I wish to insert the complete text of each of the last six winning essays in the contest on the topic "What Americanism Means to Me."

The winning essays are:

## WHAT AMERICANISM MEANS TO ME

### SEVENTH WINNING ESSAY

(By Marc Gould, 15)

(West Seneca Central Senior High School sophomore, winner of Boys Division of the Erie County Public High School Classification. (Miss Dorothy A. Dodman, teacher))

When I sit back and think of the people who formed and shaped my country, I wonder what America would be like today if they had not created the democracy and heritage I have now. Had my forefathers not decided to create a land of freedom and justice, I can barely visualize what rights I now would hold.

To me, Americanism is my democracy. My rights and freedom both form a solid foundation to base my beliefs. Where, other than America, can one live as he pleases, worship as he wishes, and feel free to speak as he wants?

Imagine the anxiety the early settlers of our country went through, not having these rights, and cautiously watching every minute of their lives, checking that they would not violate the strict, crude laws!

Fear forced them to speak, and that fear was what paved the road to our present democracy.

Yet my democracy was not completely constructed by the early patriots—those who fought so that freedom and justice would guide our lives. Modern-day patriots continue where they left off—people who realize the problems and ask what they can do to help solve them. These people are the ones who have built our present democracy.

I, too, ask what I can do for my country. I want to be in there, along with those who made our democracy strong, who made our freedom ring, who made our country great. I, too, want to help my children have the democracy I have today and to help them carry freedom's torch to their children. It is only logical for today's society to try to protect the precious rights that took almost 200 years to create.

Yet to do so, we must have faith. Faith that the flame of liberty will not smother on the long road to freedom. We must have faith in the present and courage in the future till we reach the perfect land our forefathers tried so hard to reach.

### EIGHTH WINNING ESSAY

(By Michael Ruhland, 14, Ninth-grade pupil of Maryvale Junior High School, Cheektowaga, winner of the Boys Division of the Erie County Public Junior High School Classification. Helen M. Stellrecht, teacher)

Americanism, to me, means a share in the great American heritage which has built our country into a pillar of freedom. It means opportunity, the opportunity for each man to strive toward his own ambitions, knowing his efforts will somehow be rewarded.

Americanism is pride, pride in holding one's head high at the sight of Old Glory, the pride of a nation, young and ambitious, at succeeding in a world where the successes of other young nations have been relatively few.

Americanism is unity, the unity of all people into a tireless, eternal body, a body standing above all others.

Americans is vision, the vision of people looking past dirt and poverty and into each other's hearts for the goodness and love that is kindled there.

Americanism is both willingness and generosity—willingness to accept defeat, and yet not to gloat at victory, viewing both as small steps in the direction of truth and right.

Americanism has been and will be our ability and willingness to view tragedy with courage and optimism, in the hope that our

failures will lead to another generation's successes.

Americanism might best be expressed in the words of the late Col. Edward White, following his walk into space. "I felt red, white and blue," he said.

To me, the red stands for the blood spilled in a dozen wars; the blue, the color of a free sky, and white, the symbol of America's pure intentions and undaunted efforts.

### NINTH WINNING ESSAY

(By Sandra Rokitka, 16, Bishop Colton High School junior, winner of the Private and Parochial High School Classification, Sister Mary Theresa, CSSF, teacher)

What is Americanism? Is it the quickening beat of the heart when one sees the American flag? Is it singing the national anthem with all one's soul? It may be. But I think it is far more. Americanism, to me, means service. Genuine Americanism is shown, for example, by one who pays income taxes without grumbling, and is motivated by the fact that his tax dollars are helping to further American ideals.

Americanism is shown by the astronauts who circle the globe, that we may better understand the mysteries of space. The soldier fighting in a damp jungle in Vietnam—maybe even dying so that his country might remain free—is displaying Americanism at its best.

There are many citizens who believe in service: The voter exercising his cherished right and responsible duty on election day; The civil rights marcher who shows concern for his brothers; the parent attending the PTA meeting.

It is this breed of Americans doing their share who show Americanism in its truest form.

Americans do not serve the President, Congress, or their governor; they serve their fellow Americans, Americans and their brothers, be they white, black, or red, be they Protestant, Catholic, or Jew, be they of Polish, Italian, or Irish background, make up the mosaic of the United States. Americanism, therefore, must mean service to fellow citizens, for that in turn spells service to country.

Listening faithfully to the President's addresses may be well and good; but how much better it would be if, instead of assessing one's personal gains, Americans sought new ways to serve. For Americanism, in my estimation, embodies the desire to see in America a new and better tomorrow.

My ideal of true Americanism may be summed up in the words of our late President John F. Kennedy: "Let every nation know . . . that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

### TENTH WINNING ESSAY

(By Cynthia Casseday, 13, eighth-grade pupil of Our Lady Help of Christians School, Cheektowaga, winner of the Girls Division of the Private and Parochial Elementary School Classification. Sister M. Rose Edwards, teacher)

What is Americanism? How does it involve the American people and myself? This is the question which is often unsatisfactorily answered by Americans today.

To me, Americanism is not something you read in history books or find in dictionaries, because Americanism is the people, their ideals, interests and traditions. It is freedom to speak as you wish, of assembling in private or public places, or printing facts of American interest in papers; it is the right of all men to vote; it is a democratic government.

It is a just trial by jury; it means the